

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 26, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 9, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 107

Introduced by Senator Wright
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Furutani)

April 26, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 107—Relative to Rudolph B. Davila Memorial ~~Interchange~~ *Freeway*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 107, as amended, Wright. Rudolph B. Davila Memorial ~~Interchange~~ *Freeway*.

This measure would designate ~~the intersection~~ *a portion of State Highway Route 110 and State Highway Route 91*; in the City of Los Angeles, Carson as the Rudolph B. Davila Memorial ~~Interchange~~ *Freeway*. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Rudolph B. Davila was born in El Paso, Texas,
- 2 and was raised in Watts, California. As a young man during the
- 3 Depression, he worked in vineyards and helped restore the
- 4 California missions as part of the Civilian Conservation Corps;
- 5 and
- 6 WHEREAS, During World War II, Rudolph B. Davila helped
- 7 take out several machine gun nests and prevented a 130-man

1 American rifle company from being slaughtered in a German
2 ambush in Italy; and

3 WHEREAS, On June 21, 2000, 56 years later, Rudolph B.
4 Davila, who was of Filipino and Spanish descent, along with 20
5 other Asian American World War II veterans, received a Medal
6 of Honor from President Bill Clinton at a White House ceremony
7 after an army panel reviewed their wartime actions and deemed
8 them worthy of the nation's highest commendation for battlefield
9 bravery; and

10 WHEREAS, Rudolph B. Davila earned the medal for his
11 extraordinary heroism during the offensive that broke through the
12 German mountain strongholds surrounding the Anzio beachhead
13 in May 1944; and

14 WHEREAS, When asked what made him rise to his knees with
15 a machine gun while his fellow soldiers hugged the ground,
16 Rudolph B. Davila said, "I knew what I was fighting for, and most
17 of the kids didn't," he said, ascribing his self-assuredness to
18 accounts he had read of Hitler. "I had this fervour about the defense
19 of freedom, even though I couldn't define freedom. I just knew
20 we were going to be enslaved to Hitler if we didn't defeat him";
21 and

22 WHEREAS, The war ended for Rudolph B. Davila in late 1944
23 when a tank round exploded in a tree and shrapnel ripped into his
24 right shoulder; and

25 WHEREAS, Over the next six years, he underwent 13 operations
26 on his arm and met his wife, Harriet, at a military hospital in San
27 Francisco, California; and

28 WHEREAS, After the war, Rudolph B. Davila earned bachelor's
29 and master's degrees in sociology from the University of Southern
30 California, and spent 30 years as a teacher and counselor in the
31 Los Angeles City School District; and

32 WHEREAS, Rudolph B. Davila was an excellent cook and
33 gardener. He terraced his hillside yard and built retaining walls.
34 He also built the family's house in Harbor City, California, and
35 his retirement home in Vista, California; and

36 WHEREAS, Rudolph B. Davila died January 26, 2002, in Vista,
37 California, after a long illness and is survived by his children,
38 Jeffrey, Roland, Tana, Gregg, and Jill; now, therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
40 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the heroism

1 and courage demonstrated by Rudolph B. Davila during World
2 War II and designates the ~~intersection of State Highway Route~~
3 ~~110 and westbound portion of~~ State Highway Route 91, ~~in the City~~
4 ~~of Los Angeles~~ *between Central Avenue and Figueroa Street, in*
5 *the City of Carson*, as the Rudolph B. Davila Memorial ~~Interchange~~
6 *Freeway*; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
8 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the
9 signing requirements for the state highway system showing this
10 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
11 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
12 further

13 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
14 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
15 author for appropriate distribution.